Unstarred Question No. 50 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th February, 1996 and state:

(a) whether the Fifth Pay Commission is likely to take more time in finalising its report than the previous Pay Commissions;

(b) whether it is justified considering the public money spent on Pay Commission;

(c) whether the members of the Fifth Pay Commission had gone on a two and-a-half week's world tour including Malaysia, Newzealand, Canada, United Kingdom;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) In accordance with the terms of reference, the Commission is required to submit its final report as soon as feasible. It is not possible to state at this stage whether the Fifth Pay Commission is likely to take more time in finalising its Report as compared to the previous Pay Commissions.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Fifth Central Pay Commission undertook a study tour to Malaysia, New Zealand, Canada and United Kingdom from October 3 to October 19, 1995. The objectives was to acquaint themselves with various new initiatives taken by the Governments of these countries in the field of public service management, pay determination, optimisation of the size of the Government machinery etc. and also to study the impact of the measures taken to actually implement the policy initiatives.

Extension given to Chairman of Punjab and Sind Bank

1174. SHRI PASUMPON THAKIRUTTINAN:
SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 25 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1995 and state:

(a) the rationale/criteria under which the services of the Chairman of Punjab and Sind Bank have been extended for an indefinite period beyond the age of 60 years;

(b) whether vigilance clearance was obtained in this regard;

(c) whether the said incumbent being an I.A.S. officer was due to retire at the age of 58 years and Government had in effect given him extension of two years by continuing his Chairmanship of the nationalised bank; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL): (a) and (b) The appointment of Chairman and Managing Director in nationalised banks is made in accordance with the procedure and criteria prescribed in the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970/1980 and the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme, 1970/1980. Shri K.S. Bains was initially appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of Punjab and Sind Bank for the period for 1.8.1992/31.5.1995 (upto 60 years) by the competent authority. The tenure of Shri Bains has been extended thereafter till further orders.

(c) and (d) On his appointment as Chairman and Managing Director of Punjab and Sind Bank with effect from 1.8.1992, on immediate absorption basis, Shri Bains was deemed to have retired from the IAS and hence the question of granting extension does not arise.

Joint Venture/Private Sector Involvement for Elimination of T&D Losses

1175. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:
SHRI RAJNATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to the answer to

Unstarred Question 233 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st August, 1995 and state:

(a) whether there is any scheme under Government's consideration to have a joint venture or involve private sector in elimination of transmission and distribution of losses completely; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Coal Supply to Ramagundam Power Project

1176. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allotment of coal to Ramagundam Power Project has been reduced; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The coal supply to Ramagundam STPS has been increased from 740,000 tonnes per month in the quarter October-December, 1995 to 900,000 tonnes per month for the quarter January—March, 1996.

Customs Clearance for Export of Herbal Health/Nutritional Supplements

1177. SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Herbal Health/Nutritional Supplements are permitted to be exported to foreign countries on the basis of specific orders from overseas parties; and

(b) if so, what are the special formalities, if any, that are to be observed by Exporters for Customs Clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The Herbal Health/Nutritional supplements are permitted to be exported subject to exporters producing no objection certificate from the Assistant Drug Controller, designated under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, before export is actually allowed.

विश्व बैंक से निधियां

1178. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने आधारभूत ढांचे के लिए विश्व बैंक से और अधिक निधियां मांगी हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इस संबंध में वित्त सचिव के नेतृत्व में भारतीय शिष्टमंडल की क्या उपलब्धियां रही हैं; और

(घ) वर्ष 1995-96 के लिए भारत को ऋण देने के संबंध में विश्व बैंक के कार्यक्रम का ब्यौरा क्या है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य (डा० देवी प्रसाद पाल) : (क) से (घ) देश की सहायता संबंधी आवश्यकताओं पर बातचीत करने के लिए 29 और 30 जून, 1995 को पेरिस में भारत विकास मंच की बैठक हुई। 29 जून, 1995 को द्विपक्षीय और बहुपक्षीय दाता देशों की बैठक हुई जिसमें वर्ष 1995-96 के लिए भारत के विकास के साझेदारों ने 6.9 बिलियन डालर जिसमें विश्व बैंक द्वारा राजकीय विकास सहायता के रूप में 2.8 बिलियन डालर भी शामिल हैं की वचनबद्धता की। बैठक का दूसरा दिन संभावित निवेशकों के साथ इस वर्ष के विषय "आधारभूत संरचना में प्राइवेट क्षेत्र का निवेश—एक समर्थ वातावरण" पर परस्पर बातचीत हुई समर्पित था। इस बैठक में आधारभूत संरचना के क्षेत्र में प्राइवेट क्षेत्र के प्रवेश को सुसाध्य बनाने के लिए हाल ही में प्रारंभ की गई पहलों के विस्तार हेतु सरकार के लिए एक मंच प्रदान किया गया। इस विचार-विमर्श में सरकार को आधारभूत संरचना के विकास में भाग लेने के लिए प्राईवेट क्षेत्र के लिए अपेक्षित वातावरण तैयार करने हेतु हाल ही में नीतियों में किए गए बदलाव कहां तक सफल हुए हैं, पर संभावित निवेशकों के सापेक्ष महत्व को जानने के लिए एक विशेष अवसर